

PROJECT STATUS REPORT				REPORTING PERIOD March 1953	
1. CRYPTONYM		2. DIVISION OR BRANCH		3. COUNTRY	
a. Program	b. Project			Target	Base
	BGFIEND	SE-1		Albania	Greece
5. NAME OF CASE OFFICER		ROOM NO.	EXTENSION	4. DATE ORIGINALLY APPROVED	
		1311-J	8366	a. Program	b. Project
					22 June 1953
6. TYPE OF PROJECT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FI <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PP <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PM <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SUPPORT					
7. STATUS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OPERATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> LIQUIDATING					
8. PERSONNEL ASSIGNED		O/S	U.S.	9. FY ALLOTMENT TO DATE	
U.S. _____		22	15		
FOREIGN NAT'L _____		63	2		
TOTAL		85	17	10. FY OBLIGATIONS TO DATE	

11. Summary

During March W/T contact was maintained with the 5-man Apple Team, which is at a safe base in the Bulqiz area. The team reported that according to their contacts there was no indication of unusual unrest within the country. This was contrary to widespread rumors in the Western press which reported probable revolution following Stalin's death.

On the night of 10-11 March the British dropped leaflets on Tirana, Berat and Valona. Due to bad weather, only two-thirds of the leaflet load was dropped at this time. The balance was dropped on the night of 12-13 March when the aircraft returned to England from the Suez Canal Zone.

The covert radio maintained a regular broadcast schedule three times a day, including aerial transmissions at 1730 GMT on Mondays and Thursdays.

The NCFA semi-monthly newspaper Shqipëria went to press on schedule. 50,000 copies of the miniature edition were printed and sent to Athens for use in air drops over Albania.

The Albanian News Bulletin, printed irregularly in English, French and Italian, published its 15th issue on 28 February 1953.

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